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MEMORANDUM

To: Council Administration Services

From: Council Chair Emeritus Ron Menor
Council District 9

Date: February 19, 2020

Re: Travel Report on Trip to Seattle to Tour Homeless Programs and Facilities

Introduction

I traveled to Seattle to observe firsthand innovative projects and programs that have been implemented in Seattle to address their pervasive homeless problems. The following is a description of the facilities that I visited on September 13, 2020.

Tiny Hope Village (Tiny House Village)

This facility is located on 1714 East Yesler Way. In 2015, the Low Income Housing Institute (LIHI) started building Tiny House Villages as a response to the homeless crisis and as a replacement for tents. Tiny houses offer tremendous benefits over tents – they are safe, weatherproof and lockable. The Tiny House Villages allow residents to reclaim their dignity and get on a path to permanent housing, employment, and connection to supportive services.

Tiny House Villages such as True Hope Village include tiny houses that are each approximately 8' x 12' and materials cost around \$2,500.00. All tiny houses are safe and

sturdy structures that help protect homeless individuals and families who are faced with sleeping on the streets in unsheltered and unsafe conditions.

Each house has electricity, overhead light, insulation, and a heater. Each village has a kitchen, bathroom facilities, offices for on-site case managers, ample storage, and a check-in house for security.

Moreover, working with social service providers, village residents participate in community meetings, do daily litter patrols, and serve as the eyes on the street in the neighborhood. Village residents can also be referred to the treatment and counseling services that they need.

I also made brief visits to Interbay Village, Othello Village, Camp Second Chance, and Tiny House Village.

Ernestine Anderson Place

Ernestine Anderson Place is located on 2010 South Jackson Street. This housing complex features 60 studio and 1-bedroom units and a manager's unit. Ground floor community space for residents includes an exercise room, a library with internet-enabled computers, a classroom, a service space and an outside patio garden. Permanent housing linked with supportive services is provided for 45 homeless seniors, including 8 veterans, as well as housing for 15 low-income seniors. Sound Mental Health provides on-site supportive services.

Ernestine Anderson Place is built green and designed with long term durability as a priority. The building features energy efficient insulation and fan systems, and tested very well for air barrier efficiency. Washington State Evergreen Standards were followed. The project uses low VOC materials, Energy-Star appliances, and dual-flush

toilets throughout. Ernestine Anderson Place is a non-smoking facility, which will help ensure good indoor air quality for the residents.

Ernestine Anderson Place is financed with funds from City of Seattle; King County; Tax Credit Equity through Enterprise and the Washington Housing Finance Commission; Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco; Seattle Housing Authority; HUD and United Way of King County.

Marion West

This housing complex is located on 5019 Roosevelt Way NE. The Marion West, a mixed-use project in the University District, opened in June 2016. This innovative project brings together multiple, synergistic community benefits under one roof. LIHI's housing includes 49 studio apartments: 20 affordable apartments for homeless young adults (ages 18 to 24) and 29 apartments for low-wage workers entering the workforce.

Moreover, YouthCare and Ryther provide onsite supportive services for the formerly homeless young adult residents of The Marion West to help them stabilize their lives, maintain their housing, find employment, and thrive.

The ground floor houses the new location of the University District Food Bank, greatly expanding their capacity to feed needy families in the area. The Food Bank uses the roof for urban agriculture by growing vegetables and herbs.

Street Bean Coffee has a location on the ground floor. Street Bean trains and employs young people seeking to exit street life.

The U District branch of the Seattle Public Library is next door, providing a convenient, valuable, practical and cultural resource to residents.

Conclusion

In addressing the homeless issue, policymakers need to recognize that there are no simple solutions, and that it requires a multi-faceted approach. The City of Seattle has been developing innovative solutions that should provide a model for the City and County of Honolulu as we deal with our own homeless crisis.

City Council
City and County of Honolulu

CLAIM FOR TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

Date: September 12, 2019

Traveler: Council Chair Emeritus Ron Menor

Event: 2019 Visit Homeless Facilities and Programs

Location: Seattle, Washington

Dates: From September 11, 2019

To September 15, 2019

Description	Amount	Notes
1. Registration Fee	0	
2. Airfare	547.20 ✓	
3. Hotel	638.18 ✓	Two Nights
4. Meals	288.79 156.78 ✓	
5. Ground Transportation	90.50 ✓	
6. Tips	4.00 ✓	Housekeeping
7. Other	30.00 ✓	Baggage Fee
Other		
Other		
8. Adjustment		
TOTAL REIMBURSEMENT	1573.67 1466.66 ✓	

This is to certify that the above data, based upon receipts submitted to Council Administrative Support Services via a CCLTRVL02 form, is accurate. Further, I am claiming reimbursement for expenses associated with a trip in which City business was conducted and personal funds were used to advance payment:

Signature of Traveler

Date

DEC 11 2019